



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/607,195	06/28/2000	Pradeep Bahl	204205	7584

22971 7590 05/31/2005

MICROSOFT CORPORATION
ATTN: PATENT GROUP DOCKETING DEPARTMENT
ONE MICROSOFT WAY
REDMOND, WA 98052-6399

EXAMINER

DADA, BEEMNET W

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2135

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/607,195

Applicant(s)

BAHL ET AL.

Examiner

Beemnet W. Dada

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in reply to an amendment filed on February 22, 2005. Claims 1-33 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed February 22, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Nordman (US 6,061,346) fails to teach sending assigned network address to the wireless client prior to establishing a secure link and further fails to teach sending address of a wireless access point to the wireless client. Applicant further argues that neither Norman nor Inoue provide sufficient motivation for the combination thereof proposed in the rejection. Examiner respectfully disagrees.

3. Examiner would point out that Nordman teaches assigning a network address to the wireless client [column 4, lines 9-22], further including sending the network address prior to establishing a secure link (i.e. wireless client is authenticated and allocated address, however secure link (IP tunneling) is used after address has been allocated [column 3, lines 35-53 and column 7, line 53 – column 8, line 5]. Examiner would also point out that Nordman teaches that the address of the wireless access point is stored in the wireless client [column 6, lines 4-23].

Furthermore, In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case,

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nordman US Patent 6,061,346 in view of Inoue et al. US Patent 6,510,153 (hereinafter Inoue).

6. As per claims 1, 6, 9 and 17 Nordman teaches a method for controlling access to a network by a wireless client, the method comprising:

assigning a network address to the wireless client, wherein the network address has a lease period [column 4, lines 13-22];

sending the assigned network address to the wireless client prior to establishing a secure link [column 7, line 53 – column 8, line 5];

sending an address of a wireless access point to the wireless client, wherein the wireless access point is adapted to provide access to the network for the wireless client [column 8, lines 12-23 and lines 57-67]. Furthermore, Nordman teaches an assigning IP address to wireless clients for a selected period [column 4, lines 13-22].

Nordman does not explicitly teach if the wireless client fails to establish the secure link with the wireless access point and request a renewal of the assigned address via the secure link within the lease period, invalidating the assigned network address, thereby preventing the

Art Unit: 2135

wireless client from accessing the network. However, Inoue teaches a method for controlling access to a network by including if a wireless client fails to establish the secure link with the wireless access point and request a renewal of the assigned address via the secure link within the lease period, invalidating the assigned network address, thereby preventing the wireless client from accessing the network [see for example column 8, lines 47-55 and column 10, lines 52-67]. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the method of preventing wireless client from accessing a network, a lease period has expired as taught by Inoue into the secure system of Nordman, in order to assign address dynamically to wireless clients for a certain period of time and allow limited use of secure connection.

7. As per claims 12, 19, 21 and 26 Nordman teaches a method for controlling access to a network by a wireless client, the method comprising:

assigning a network address to the wireless client, wherein the network address has a lease period [column 4, lines 13-22] and sending the assigned network address to the wireless client [column 7, line 53 – column 8, line 5]; and negotiating the establishment of a secure link with the wireless client [column 4, lines 35-53]. Furthermore, Nordman teaches an assigning IP address to wireless clients for a selected period [column 4, lines 13-22]. Nordman does not explicitly teach if a lease time expires before the secure link is established, denying the wireless client access to the network.

However, Inoue teaches a method for controlling access to a network including receiving a request for a network address from the wireless client [figure. 15, REQUEST ADDRESS A], attaching information to the request to indicate that the request originated from a wireless client and relaying the request to the address server [column 22, lines 30-37]. Inoue Further teaches if

a lease time expires before the secure link is established, denying the wireless client access to the network [see for example column 8, lines 47-55 and column 10, lines 52-67]. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the method of preventing wireless client from accessing a network, a lease period has expired as taught by Inoue into the secure system of Nordman, in order to assign address dynamically to wireless clients for a certain period of time and allow limited use of secure connection.

8. As per claims 2, 7 and 11, the combination of Nordman and Inoue teaches the method as applied above. Furthermore, Inoue teaches the method wherein the assigned network address and the wireless access point address are sent to the wireless client in a DHCP offer packet [column 11, lines 57-67 and column 13, lines 16-23].

9. As per claims 3, 8, 10, 18, 23 and 28 the combination of Nordman and Inoue teaches the method as applied above. Furthermore, Nordman teaches secure IP tunneling [column 8, lines 8-22].

10. As per claims 4, the combination of Nordman and Inoue teaches the method as applied above. Furthermore, Nordman teaches sending network address via a wireless access point [column 4, lines 4-22].

11. As per claims 13, 20, 24 and 29, the combination of Nordman and Inoue teaches the method as applied above. Furthermore, Inoue teaches broadcasting an ARP packet to check whether there are any other clients having the same assigned address of the wireless client,

and if a response to the ARP packet is received terminating the negotiation, thereby denying the wireless client access to the network [see figure 12].

12. As per claims 5, 14, 25 and 30 the combination of Nordman and Inoue teaches the method as applied above. Furthermore, Inoue teaches returning an assigned home address in response to ARP processing [figure 12 and figure 13 B].

13. As per claims 15, 16, 22 and 27, the combination of Nordman and Inoue teaches the method as applied above. Furthermore, Inoue teaches DHCP discover packet request [figure 12 DHCPDISCOVER], and inserting data into an optional field of the packet to indicate that the packet was received from a wireless client, and relaying the packet to the address server [column 22, lines 30-37].

14. As per claims 31-33, the combination of Nordman and Inoue teaches the method as applied above. Furthermore, Nordman teaches an assigning IP address to wireless clients for a selected period [column 4, lines 13-22] and creating a secure link by IP tunneling [column 8, lines 8-22].

Conclusion

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Beemnet W. Dada whose telephone number is (571) 272-3847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9:00 am - 5:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Beemnet Dada

May 23, 2005


KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100